

CHAPTER

II. 1814

Italy and Eugene — Siege of Dantzic — Capitulation concluded but not ratified— Rapp made prisoner and sent to Kief — Davoust's refusal to believe the intelligence from Paris—Projected assassination of one of the French Princes — Departure of Davoust and General Hogendorff from Hamburg — The affair of Maubreuil—Arrival of the Commissioners of the Allied powers at Fontainebleau—Preference shown by Napoleon to Colonel Campbell — Bonaparte's address to General Kohler — His farewell to his troops—• First day of Napoleon's journey —The Imperial Guard succeeded by the Cossacks — Interview with Augereau — The first white cockade — • Napoleon hanged in effigy at Orgon — His escape in the disguise of a courier — Scene in the inn of La Calade — Arrival at Aix —The Princess Pauline— Napoleon embarks for Elba — His life at Elba.

I MUST now direct the attention of the reader to Italy, which was the cradle of Napoleon's glory, and towards which he transported himself in imagination from the Palace of Fontainebleau. Eugene had succeeded in keeping up his means of defence until April, but on the 7th of that month, being positively informed of the overwhelming reverses of France, he found himself constrained to accede to the propositions of the Marshal de Bellegarde to treat for the evacuation of Italy; and on the 10th a convention was concluded, in which it was stipulated that the French troops, under the command of Eugene, should return within the limits of old France. The clauses of this convention were executed on the 19th of April.¹ Eugene, thinking that the Senate of Milan was favorably disposed towards him, solicited that body to use its influence in obtaining the consent of the Allied powers to his continuance at the head of the Government of Italy;² but this

¹ Lord William Pitt and Sir Edward Fellow had taken Genoa on the 18th of April. Murat was in the field with the Austrians against the French.

² The following is a curious circumstance relative to the Senate of Milan. In the height of our difficulties that body sent a deputation to congratulate